

**Electric Utilities Task Group
Wednesday, April 27, 2016
Town Hall, Old Town Road
12:45 p.m.**

Present: Chairperson Barbara MacMullan, Everett Shorey, Bill Penn. Also present were Town Manager Nancy Dodge, Councilors Ken Lacoste and Norris Pike, Cliff and Sara McGinnes and variety of community members. Also present was Renee Meyer from the Block Island Times, and clerk Bonny Ryan to take the minutes.

Meeting was called to order at 12: 47 by Chairperson MacMullan.

1. Public Input – none

2. Approval of minutes from March 28, 2016 – Bill Penn moved to approve the minutes of March 28, 2016 as written seconded by Everett Shorey.

Ayes (MacMullan, Shorey, Penn) Nays 0

Minutes from January 25, 2016 were not available.

3. Discuss and act on BIPco Waiver Request – The P.U.C. will hold a public hearing at Town Hall on May 12, 2016 at 10:30 a.m.

4. Discuss and act on restructuring/rate case issues. – There was no further information available.

The memo from the PUC (attached) was circulated with no action.

5. Discussion and act on relative benefits of Electric Utility District vs. Electric Utility Cooperative.

Ms. MacMullan said that they were still data gathering. Discussed were:

- Finance Director Amy Land is talking to Bond Council about implications of both types of ownership.
- Barbara MacMullan spoke to Mike Kirkwood of Pascoag which is an Electric Utility District and he was will to come out to discuss the differences and their membership in the American Power Producing Association.
- John Warfel said he spoke with Bill Collet who is an independent consultant, who said that it doesn't make sense to buy BIPco and then sell it to a co-op. This requires two transactions which is unnecessary and the decision should be made before the purchase of BIPco. He spoke in favor of the co-op model because their only purpose is to buy electricity at the best possible price and provide the best possible service. He said that there were associations out there that could help with this. Mr. Warfel will have Mr. Collet come out the address the EUTG as soon as possible.
- Either option would require legislation and if it is going to get into this year's calendar it needs to be done now. Barbara MacMullan and Nancy Dodge will work on the wording of the legislation this week. (Either/or legislation).

6. Presentation by Northern Transmission LLC on potential acquisition of BIPco

Northern Transmission LLC gave a presentation about their potential acquisition of BIPco. They are a private company. There was a question and answer period.

At 2:00 p.m. Barbara MacMullan moved to enter closed session pursuant to RIGL§42-46-5(a)(5), seconded by Mr. Penn.

Ayes 3(MacMullan, Shorey, Penn) Nays 0

At 2:15 p.m. Everett Shorey moved to return to open session, seal the minutes, and mention that no votes were taken in closed session. This was seconded by Barbara MacMullan

Ayes 3(MacMullan, Shorey, Penn) Nays 0

At 2:17 p.m. Everett Shorey moved to adjourn, seconded by Barbara MacMullan and voted unanimously.

Minutes accepted: 5/16/2016

Bonny Ryan